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MASSACHUSETTS ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

A Guide to the Art Collection

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

July 1991

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Introduction

On July 16, 1980 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed Chapter 579 of the General Laws, incorporating art into state construction projects administered by the Division of Capital Planning and Operations. This legislation stated that "each contract shall provide that not less than 1% of the cost of a construction project be expended for art; provided further, that not more than \$100,000 be expended [per project]".

The Massachusetts Art in Public Places Program (MAPP) was established in 1981 to commission and purchase the work of living artists for placement in these new or renovated facilities. The goals of the program were (1) to provide the citizens of the Commonwealth with a public collection of quality artwork by contemporary artists and (2) to enhance a wide variety of state-owned, publicly-shared spaces. MAPP administration was to be a collaborative effort of the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Division of Capital Planning and Operations.

Between 1981 and 1991, the Massachusetts Art in Public Places Program involved more than 400 artists, architects, community residents, students and educators, administrators, arts professionals and government representatives in the selection of the 20 works that comprise the art collection. Several arts organizations throughout the state assisted by serving as Regional Coordinating Agencies (RCAs) during the art selection process. A seven-member Public Art Advisory Board from the fields of urban design, education, art, and architecture offered critical feedback and guidance for the program. Of the 20 commissioned MAPP artists, 35% were women, 20% were minorities and 45% were residents of Massachusetts.

Sculpture, paintings, works in terrazzo, wood, stone and glass, tapestries, benches, planters, photographs and a working clock now enhance and humanize interior and exterior public spaces in community colleges and a state university, state office buildings, a treatment center at a correctional facility, a county jail, a developmental center, a court house, the state archives and the Massachusetts State House. The commissions ranged from \$7,600 for smaller objects to the \$100,000 maximum for large scale works, totaling \$760,700 in all.

The state's economic and political climate, administrative difficulties within the program, and public controversy had a critical impact on the Massachusetts Art in Public Places Program throughout its ten-year history.

While many legislators were committed to the potential benefits of a percent-for-art program in Massachusetts, others felt the program - and the arts in general - a drain on the state budget and an expendable frill. The enacted legislation contained no provision for administrative costs and so, in order to move forward, the Council had to incorporate these costs into its own operating budget. A full-time director for MAPP was not hired until 1987. Because the two state agencies collaborating on the program had very different missions, communication was at times ineffective or strained.

And art controversies that occurred nationwide during the 1980s - the debate about placing art in prisons as the best example - touched MAPP as well. A sculpture installed on the grounds of the Worcester County Jail caused a political uproar and resulted in legislation exempting all correctional facilities from the program. Finally, in response to a state budget crisis in 1991, the House and Senate voted to rescind the Commonwealth's percent-for-art legislation and, consequently, MAPP was halted.

Until the Massachusetts Art in Public Places Program is reinstated (or a similar percent-for-art program is established), photographic and written documentation about the program and the art collection will remain on file at the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Contractual information about each artwork will be maintained by the Division of Capital Planning and Operations. These files are open and available to the general public.

Questions, corrections or comments about this document should be directed to Mark Winetrout at the Massachusetts Cultural Council by calling (617) 727-3668.

Division of Capital Planning and Operations

The Division of Capital Planning and Operations (DCPO) was created in 1981 to manage all of the Commonwealth's real property functions including land acquisitions and dispositions, leasing, planning, design and construction. In addition to renovating, building and leasing space on behalf of state agencies, DCPO spearheads initiatives that ensure efficient building use and public safety.

DCPO strives to produce both well-designed and well-constructed buildings which serve the physical and human needs of the user agency.

DCPO Contact: Louise Pepe, MAPP Coordinator
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The Massachusetts Cultural Council

The Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) was established on January 1, 1990 through the merger of two state agencies: the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities (created in 1966) and the Massachusetts Arts Lottery Council (created in 1979). The mission of both agencies was to stimulate the practice, study and appreciation of the arts, humanities and sciences in the 351 cities and towns of the Commonwealth.

The Council's mission includes: (1) supporting the public programs of cultural institutions; (2) broadening educational opportunities; (3) fostering cultural diversity and access; (4) stimulating the creation of new work; and (4) leading state-wide efforts in advocacy and long-range planning for cultural development.

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MASSACHUSETTS ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

Art Collection

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- | | | | |
|----|---|---------|----------|
| 1. | Pittsfield - Madonna Hall
Alex S. MacLean
Commission: 1984
Eight framed color cibachrome prints each 30" x 40". | Budget: | \$10,000 |
| 2. | Pittsfield - Madonna Hall
Werner Pfeiffer
Commission: 1984
Painted outdoor steel sculpture and seven print constructions or "shadow boxes" in the Registry of Motor Vehicles. | Budget: | \$15,950 |
| 3. | Fall River/Bristol Comm College
Ralph Helmick
Commission: 1984
Cast bronze sculpture depicting a fish leaping upward inside a grid-patterned net. Nine feet in height, the sculpture rests on a gray granite plinth. | Budget: | \$30,000 |
| 4. | Lynn/North Shore Community College
Natalie Alper
Commission: 1984
Acrylic on canvas 3-panel abstract painting. | Budget: | \$10,000 |
| 5. | Lynn/North Shore Community College
Andrea Blum
Commission: 1984
A series of 13 pale purple, bright gold, and black two-dimensional terrazzo panels arranged on a rounded stairway wall. Viewed individually, each panel displays a black shape silhouetted against a color. | Budget: | \$30,000 |
| 6. | Lynn/North Shore Community College
George Greenamyre
Commission: 1984
Outdoor forged black painted steel sculpture measuring 4 ft. x 60 ft. x 19 ft. The sculpture depicts two stages of the industrial history of Lynn. The 1720 section shows young and old men laboring in the shoe industry, preparing goods for delivery to market. The 1986 section | Budget: | \$60,000 |

shows executives & factory workers from General Electric displaying goods to be sold at market.

7. **Boston/Roxbury Community College** Budget: \$30,000
 Napoleon Jones-Henderson
 Commission: 1984 Installation: 1991
 Two ceremonial doors measuring approximately 5 ft. x 10 ft., one surface of carved wood, one surface of porcelain enamel tiles on a copper base attached by epoxy.

8. **Boston/Roxbury Community College** Budget: \$60,000
 John Wilson
 Commission: 1984 Installation: 1990
 A seven foot high bronze figurative sculpture of a father and child reading.

9. **MCI Bridgewater/Treatment Ctr** Budget: \$11,450
 Sanghye H. Chang
 Commission: 1985 Installation: 1986
 Series of eight vertical cotton fabric strips stretched over semi-circular brackets to form a cylindrical effect or composite tapestry.

10. **MCI Bridgewater/Treatment Ctr** Budget: \$ 7,600
 Janet Fredericks
 Commission: 1985 Installation: 1987
 Two works - acrylic on board; one work - oil on canvas; one work - pastel on paper.

11. **MCI Bridgewater/Treatment Ctr** Budget: \$ 8,500
 Catherine Hall
 Commission: 1985 Installation: 1987
 Three rows of 52 polyester banners with a minimalist geometric design, hanging in a communal living area.

12. **MCI Bridgewater/Treatment Ctr** Budget: \$20,000
 David Moore
 Commission: 1985 Installation: 1988
 A 20 ft. x 60 ft. acrylic on canvas mural depicting a cloudscape in a communal living area.

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|-----|--|---|
| 13. | MCI Bridgewater/Treatment Ctr
John Wall
Commission: 1985
Benches, suspended planters, a cabinet and a registration desk of carved Honduras mahogany, all for the main lobby. | Budget: \$42,200
Installation: 1986 |
| 14. | North Dartmouth/Southeastern MA Univ
Nancy Holt
Commission: 1985
A 20 ft. wide tubular sculpture consisting of a central movable cylinder and 10 ft. high inner arches expanding into 18 ft. high splaying tubular elements. Beneath the central surface of the artwork are buried certain artifacts relating to the textile industry of southeastern Massachusetts. The work also suggests an image of the fishing industry. The central section of the work may be rotated or "spun" by the viewer. | Budget: \$81,500
Installation: 1991 |
| 15. | North Dartmouth/Southeastern MA Univ
Blair Tate
Commission: 1985
A hanging tapestry of woven and knotted linen and cotton. | Budget: \$18,500
Installation: 1989 |
| 16. | West Boylston/Worcester County Jail
David Stromeyer
Commission: 1985
Brilliant blue steel sculpture of curvilinear and circular forms on the grounds at the entrance to the jail. | Budget: \$35,000
Installation: 1987 |
| 17. | Monson/Developmental Center
Karin S. Giusti
Commission: 1985
Series of 3-dimensional, flower-like forms constructed from transparent polypropylene netting stretched over welded steel tubing suspended from an interior hallway's atrium ceiling, and black exterior pieces made of plastic-coated perforated aluminum planted at a 60-degree angle in the building's front lawn. | Budget: \$15,000
Installation: 1988 |
| 18. | Boston/Mass. State Archives
Carlos Dorrien
Commission: 1985
Low stone wall with granite arch, flat granite tablet and free form stone bench. 35 ft. x 45 ft. x 11 ft. * (\$45,000 from NEA grant) | Budget: \$75,000*
Installation: 1989 |

19. **Boston/State House** Budget: \$100,000
Ronald M. Fischer
Commission: 1986 Installation: 1990
The work is a four-faced stainless steel clock with a glass bead blasted finish, brass, translucent Plexiglas, fluorescent lights and suspension cable system.
20. **Newburyport District Courthouse** Budget: \$100,000
Dan Dailey
Commission: 1989 Installation: 1990
A 12 ft. x 16 ft. x 2 ft. window wall made of cast glass blocks for the second terminus of the main stairway of the Courthouse.

MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

The following reference publications on public art and related topics are available for review at the Massachusetts Cultural Council, 80 Boylston Street, Boston. For library hours, please call the Council (617) 727-3668.

PUBLIC ART - Massachusetts

A Guide to Public Art in Greater Boston, Marty Carlock (1988)

An International Symposium on Art in Transportation, The Cambridge Arts Council (1988)

Art in the Massachusetts State House, Massachusetts Art Commission (1986)

Artists and Architects Collaborate: Designing the Weisner Building, MIT Committee on the Visual Arts

Arts on the Line - A Pilot Project in Arts and Transportation, The Cambridge Arts Council and MBTA (1980)

Arts on the Line - A Public Art Handbook, Cambridge Arts Council

Artworks in Our Parks - An Inventory of Public Memorials, Worcester, Massachusetts, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Worcester (1986)

BIGlittle Sculpture, Williams College Museum of Art (Exhibition catalog) (1988)

Boston Transportation Department, City of Boston (1987)

Boston Visions - A National Design Competition, Boston Society of Architects (1988)

Bristol Community College - Selections from the Permanent Collection, An Exhibition, Bristol Community College (1986)

Collaboration at the Station: Art and Architecture for the MBTA, Cambridge Arts Council (1984)

Design Opportunities for Urban Industry - A Proposal for the National Endowment for the Arts, Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston (1986)

Governor's Design Awards Catalog, Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities (1987)

Insights/On Sites - Perspectives on Art in Public Places, Partners for Livable Places (1984)

Massachusetts College of Art: Five Year Plan 1990-95, (1989)

Midtown Cultural District Plan - Work in Progress, Office of the Arts and Humanities, City of Boston (1987)

ON VIEW A Journal of Public Art and Design, ON VIEW Public Art and Design Association (1990)

Passport to Public Art, Boston Art Commission (1984)

Public Art and the Cultural District - A Planning Report, Prepared by the Institute of Contemporary Art for the Boston Redevelopment Authority (draft for discussion purposes) (1987)

Public Art in Cambridge, The Cambridge Arts Council (1985)

Program Information - Arts in Transit: The Southwest Corridor, UrbanArts, Inc. (1988)

Red Line Northwest Extension, MBTA and Cambridge Arts Council (1987)

The Lowell Cultural Plan, The Lowell Plan, Inc. (1987)

PUBLIC ART - General

Allocation for Art for Public Facilities: A Model Act, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (1984)

Architectural Heritage Education: A Summary Report - Local Architecture as a Teaching Resource for High School Courses, NEH and Office of the Mass. Secretary of State (1982)

Art for the Public - The Collection of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (1985)

Art in Institutions: A Summary Report, Washington State Arts Commission
King County Arts Commission (1981)

Art in Public Places - A survey of community-sponsored projects supported by the NEA, Andy Leon Harney (1981)

Artifacts - Public Art in Seattle's New Underground, Metro Council (1988)

Artists Live/Work Spaces - A national design competition, Bank of Boston (1986)

Artscape Goals and Objectives: A Public Art Plan for Scottsdale (AZ), Scottsdale Cultural Council (1989)

Artscape Survey: A Public Art Plan for Scottsdale (AZ), Scottsdale Cultural Council (1990)

Dialogue - Arts in the Midwest, Dialogue, Inc. (1991)

Following a River - A Proposed Public Art Plan for Portland's Central City, Metropolitan Arts Commission (1986)

For a Permanent Public Art - WPA Murals in the Health and Hospitals Corporation's Collection, (Exhibition catalog from the Tweed Gallery, NYC) Health and Hospitals/Art Commission, City of New York (1988)

From Commas to Cathedrals - Design at Work, NEA Design Arts Program (1988)

Going Public: A field guide to developments in art in public places, Jeffrey Cruikshank and Pam Korza (1988)

How the Arts Made a Difference - the MacArthur Park Public Art Program, Al Nodal (1989)

Information on Artists - a study of artists' work-related human and social service needs in ten U.S. locations (Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis/St. Paul, NYC, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Cape Cod and Western Massachusetts), Research Center for Arts and Culture/Columbia University 1989

Intervention and Alchemy: A Public Art Primer, Richard Posner (1990)

Metro: Moving Art - Final Report on the Public Art Project in Cincinnati, Ohio, SW Ohio Regional Transit Authority (1979)

Money to Work - Grants for Visual Artists, Art Resources International with the NEA (1988)

On Common Ground, Ohio Arts Council (1987)

Partners in Purchase - Selected Works 1976-1987, Lakeview Museum of Arts and Science for the State of Illinois (1990)

People and Public Places, Arts, Tourism and Cultural Resources Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures (1984)

Placemakers - Public Art That Tells You Where You Are, Ron Fleming and Renata von Tscharnner 1981

Places as Art, Mike Lipske for the NEA Design Arts Program (1985)

Portuguese Contemporary Engravings: 1970 - 1983, Bristol Community College (1986)

The City As A Stage - Strategies for the Arts in Urban Economics, ed. Kevin Green for the NEA Design Arts Program (1983)

The Montpelier Cityscape Workbook - A Guide for Development in the Design Control District, City of Montpelier, VT (1976)

The Public Sector Designs, Partners for Livable Places (1984)

The Status of the Artist, Government of Canada (1986)

Thomas Hart Benton - The America Today Murals, Williams College
Museum of Art/Williamstown, MA (1985)

Toward Civilization - A Report on Arts Education, NEA (1988)

You Are Here - Boston Celebrations/Environmental Art, MIT Center for
Advanced Visual Studies (1976)

PERCENT FOR ART PROGRAMS - Nationwide

Art in Public Spaces, Maine Arts Commission (1989)

Art in Unexpected Places, (The Percent for Art Collection), New Hampshire
State Council on the Arts (1989)

Commission on Art in Public Places, Michigan Commission on Art in Public
Places (1987)

Commission on Art in Public Places: Annual Report, Michigan Commission
on Art in Public Places (1989)

Downtown Art in Public Places Policy, Community Redevelopment Agency
City of Los Angeles (1985)

Metro-Dade (Florida) Art in Public Places, (various materials) (1987)

Projects and Proposals - New York City's Percent for Art Program, NYC Dept.
of Cultural Affairs (1988)

Public Art in Downtown Los Angeles, Community Redevelopment Agency
City of Los Angeles (1986)

Retrospective: 1968-1987, (Hawaii) State Foundation on Culture and the Arts
(1987)

The Percent for Art Handbook, Maine State Commission on the Arts and
Humanities (1984)

Visual Dallas - A Public Art Plan for the City, Dallas Parks and Recreation
Dept/Div of Cultural Affairs/Citizen Task Force (1987)

Wisconsin's Percent for Art Program, Wisconsin Art Board (1989)

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MASSACHUSETTS ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

Collaborating Agencies

Massachusetts Cultural Council

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Division of Capital Planning and Operations

John F. Bradshaw, Acting Commissioner
Louise Pepe, MAPP Coordinator, 1989-91

Related publications available at the Massachusetts Cultural Council include **The Massachusetts Art in Public Places Program: A Critical Survey** and **Massachusetts Art in Public Places: Companion Reference Guide**, both prepared by Beverlee Seronick Barnes.

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